

Application No.: 10/658,962  
Attorney Docket No.: 49321-102  
First Applicant's Name: Mendy S. Maccabee  
Application Filing Date: September 8, 2003  
Office Action Dated: October 28, 2008  
Date of Response: February 24, 2009  
Examiner: Jennifer M. Kim

IN THE CLAIMS:

Applicants, pursuant 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, submit the following amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for treating ~~a damaged ciliated epithelial structure~~ sinus disease or promoting sinus wound healing in a subject in need thereof, comprising topical administration of a ~~depot~~ formulation of a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising vitamin A to a ~~damaged ciliated epithelial structure~~ nasal or sinus mucosa of the subject, ~~wherein treating of the damaged ciliated epithelial structure is achieved.~~

2.-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein topical administration comprises administration by a medium selected from the group consisting of aqueous or non-aqueous gels, solutions, ointments, salves, lotions, unguents, coatings, impregnations of packing material or sponge material or strip gauze, and combinations thereof.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein treating comprises affecting an indicator selected from the group consisting of ~~[[:]] increase, relative to untreated,~~ in ciliated paranasal sinus mucosa; ~~promotion, relative to untreated,~~ of ciliated epithelial healing or regeneration; ~~reduction, relative to untreated,~~ of serous gland loss; ~~reduction, relative to untreated,~~ of laminar fibrosis, ~~including of the lamina propria;~~ ~~effect, relative to untreated~~ on mucociliary density change, ~~including causing a greater density of regenerated cilia; and effect, relative to normal,~~ on sinus bone morphometry, ~~including sinus bone morphometry.~~

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein vitamin A is administered at a concentration range selected from the group consisting of ~~[[:]]~~ about 0.001% to about 0.25%

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(w/w); about 0.005% to about 0.025% (w/w); about 0.01% to about 0.025% (w/w), and about 0.001% to about 0.05%.

9.-10. (Cancelled)

11.-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1 or 11~~ claim 1, wherein vitamin A is retinoic acid.

22.-23. (Cancelled)

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the sinus disease is acute sinus disease.

25. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the sinus disease is chronic sinus disease.

26. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has undergone a sinus surgery.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the sinus surgery is selected from the group consisting of endoscopic sinus surgery, ethmoidectomy, endoscopic frontal sinus surgery, frontal sinusotomy, FESS (functional endoscopic sinus surgery), maxillary sinusotomy, open frontal sinus surgery, polypectomy, reduction removal of inferior turbinate, reduction removal of middle turbinate, septoplasty, sphenoidotomy, and tumor removal.

28. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the formulation is a depot formulation.